Claims:

What is claimed is:

1. A method for preventing robots from browsing a Web site beyond a welcome page [110], said method in said Web site comprising the steps of:

receiving an initial request from an undefined originator and responding to said initial request [300] with a challenge [310] that prompts a response from said undefined originator; and

receiving a response [320] from said undefined originator and checking [330] said response to determine whether said challenge is fulfilled; and

if said challenge is fulfilled:
processing any further requests; and

if said challenge is not fulfilled:
stopping processing of any further requests.

2. The method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of stopping processing of said further requests includes the further step of:

dropping or redirecting a TCP connection [352] established with said undefined originator.

3.   The method according to Claim 1 further including the steps of:

logging a source IP address [361] of said undefined originator and

starting a timer [362].

4.   The method according to Claim 2 further including the steps of:

logging a source IP address [361] of said undefined originator and

starting a timer [362].

5.   The method according to Claim 2 further including steps upon receiving a new request [410] of:

checking [420] whether a source IP address of said new request matches said logged source IP address; and

if said source IP address matches said logged source IP address:

checking [430] whether said timer has expired and,

if said timer is expired,

resetting [40] said logged IP address; and

proceeding [450] normally with said new request; and

if said timer is not expired,

dropping or redirecting said TCP connection [460];

if said source IP address does not match said logged source
IP address,

proceeding [450] normally with said new request and
executing all the above steps with each newly received request
[410].

6.   The method according to Claim 4 further including steps
upon receiving a new request [410] of:

checking [420] whether a source IP address of said new
request matches said logged source IP address; and

if said source IP address matches said logged source IP
address:

checking [430] whether said timer has expired and,

if said timer is expired,

resetting [40] said logged IP address; and

proceeding [450] normally with said new request; and

if said timer is not expired,

dropping or redirecting said TCP connection [460];

if said source IP address does not match said logged source IP address,

proceeding [450] normally with said new request and executing all the above steps with each newly received request [410].

7.   The method according to any one of Claims 1-6, wherein:

said challenge includes prompting said undefined originator to perform a specific action [130].

8.   The method according to any one of Claims 1-6 wherein:

said prompting is different at each subsequent access of said web site.

9.   The method according to Claim 7 wherein:

said prompting is different at each subsequent access of said web site.

10.   The method according to any one of the previous Claims

1-6 wherein:

said response includes making a choice among a plurality of prompted response options [120].

11.   The method according to Claim 7 wherein:

said response includes making a choice among a plurality of prompted response options [120].

12.   The method according to Claim 8 wherein:

said response includes making a choice among a plurality of prompted response options [120].

13.   The method according to Claim 9 wherein:

said response includes making a choice among a plurality of prompted response options [120].

14.   The method according to any one of the previous Claims 1-6, wherein said response includes an answer to a quiz [510].

15.   The method according to Claim 7, wherein said response includes an answer to a quiz [510].

16.   The method according to Claim 8, wherein said response includes an answer to a quiz [510].

17.   The method according to Claim 9, wherein said response includes an answer to a quiz [510].

18.   The method according to Claim 10, wherein said response includes an answer to a quiz [510].

19.   The method according to Claim 11, wherein said response includes an answer to a quiz [510].

20.   The method according to Claim 12, wherein said response includes an answer to a quiz [510].

21.   The method according to Claim 13, wherein said response includes an answer to a quiz [510].

22.   The method acording to any one of the previous Claims 1-6, 9, 11-13, and 14-21, wherein said response is suggested by textual meaning [530].

23.   The method according to Claim 7, wherein said response is suggested by textual meaning [530].

24.   The method according to Claim 8, wherein said response is suggested by textual meaning [530].

25.   The method according to Claim 10, wherein said response is suggested by textual meaning [530].

26.   The method according to Claim 14, wherein said

response is suggested by textual meaning [530].

27.   A computer process for preventing robots from browsing a web site beyond a welcome page, comprising computer-executable steps of:

receiving an initial request from an undefined originator and responding to said initial request [300] with a challenge [310] that prompts a response from said undefined originator; and receiving a response [320] from said undefined originator and checking [330] said response to determine whether said challenge is fulfilled; and

    if said challenge is fulfilled:
        processing any further requests; and

    if said challenge is not fulfilled:
        stopping processing of any further requests.

28.   A computer process as claimed in Claim 27, further including computer-executable steps for:

    dropping or redirecting a TCP connection [352] established with said undefined originator.

29.   A computer process as claimed in Claim 27,

    logging a source IP address [361] of said undefined originator and

starting a timer [362].

30.   A computer process as claimed in Claim 28,

logging a source IP address [361] of said undefined
originator and

starting a timer [362].

31.   A computer process according to Claim 29, further
including computer-executable steps for:

checking [420] whether a source IP address of said new
request matches said logged source IP address; and

if said source IP address matches said logged source IP
address:

checking [430] whether said timer has expired and,

if said timer is expired,

        resetting [40] said logged IP address; and

        proceeding [450] normally with said new request; and

if said timer is not expired,

        dropping or redirecting said TCP connection [460];

if said source IP address does not match said logged source IP address,

proceeding [450] normally with said new request and executing all the above steps with each newly received request [410].

32. A computer process according to Claim 31, further including computer-executable steps for:

checking [420] whether a source IP address of said new request matches said logged source IP address; and

if said source IP address matches said logged source IP address:

checking [430] whether said timer has expired and,

if said timer is expired,

resetting [40] said logged IP address; and

proceeding [450] normally with said new request; and

if said timer is not expired,

dropping or redirecting said TCP connection [460];

if said source IP address does not match said logged source

IP address,

proceeding [450] normally with said new request and executing all the above steps with each newly received request [410].

33.   A computer process according to any one of claims 28-32, further including computer-executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to perform a specific action.

34.   A computer process according to any one of Claims 28-32, further including computer-executable steps for:

changing said prompting at each access of said website.

35.   A compute rprocess according to Claim 33, further including computer-executable steps for:

checking [420] whether a source IP address of said new request matches said logged source IP address; and

if said source IP address matches said logged source IP address:

checking [430] whether said timer has expired and,

if said timer is expired,

resetting [40] said logged IP address; and

proceeding [450] normally with said new request; and

if said timer is not expired,

dropping or redirecting said TCP connection [460];

if said source IP address does not match said logged source
IP address,

proceeding [450] normally with said new request and
executing all the above steps with each newly received request
[410].

36.   A compuer process according to any one of Claims 28-32,
further including computer-executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response
chosen from among a plurality of prompted response options.

37.   A computer process according to Claim 33, further
including computer-executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response
chosen from among a plurality of prompted response options.

38.   A computer process according to Claim 34, further
including computer-executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response
chosen from among a plurality of prompted response options.

39.   A computer process according to Claim 35, further
including computer-executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response
chosen from among a plurality of prompted response options.

40.   A computer process according to any one of Claims 28-32,
further including computer-executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response that
is an answer to a quiz.

41.   A computer process according to Claim 33,   further
including computer-executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response that
is an answer to a quiz.

42.   A computer process according to Claim 34,   further
including computer-executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response that
is an answer to a quiz.

43.   A computer process according to Claim 35,   further
including computer-executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response that is an answer to a quiz.

44.   A computer process according to Claim 36, further including computer-executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response that is an answer to a quiz.

45.   A computer process according to Claim 37, further including computer-executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response that is an answer to a quiz.

46.   A computer process according to Claim 38, further including computer-executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response that is an answer to a quiz.

47.   A computer process according to Claim 39, further including computer-executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response that is an answer to a quiz.

48.   A computer process according to any one of Claims 28-32, further including computer-executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response based upon the knowledge content of said prompt.

49.   A computer process according to Claim 33, further including computer-executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response based upon the knowledge content of said prompt.

50.   A computer process according to Claim 34, further including computer-executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response based upon the knowledge content of said prompt.

51.   A computer process according to Claim 35, further including computer executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response based upon the knowledge content of said prompt.

52.   A computer process according to Claim 36, further including computer executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response based upon the knowledge content of said prompt.

53.   A computer process according to Claim 37, further including computer executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response based upon the knowledge content of said prompt.

54.   A computer process according to Claim 38, further including computer executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response based upon the knowledge content of said prompt.

55.   A computer process according to Claim 39, further including computer executable steps for:

prompting said undefined originator to make a response based upon the knowledge content of said prompt.